

The Avalanche.

G. PALMER, Editor and Proprietor.
GRANVILLE, MICHIGAN.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Interesting News Compilation.

FROM WASHINGTON.

It is estimated that the total expenditure of the Post-office Department for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1887, will be \$56,000,000, of which there is expected to be \$56,000,000 of which there is expected to be \$56,000,000 of which there is expected to be \$56,000,000.

On the 12th the Washington monument had reached a greater height than that of any other structure in the world, being 30 feet ten inches above the floor of the monument. The next highest structure is the spire of the Cologne Cathedral, 22 feet high. The monument will be dedicated February 22 next.

During the past year positions to the number of 222,750 and to the amount of \$30,908,587 were filled in this country. Of the 222,750 filled since 1861, 545,130 have been allowed, the total amount disbursed during that period being \$78,446,841.

Reverend J. W. Foster, of the Department of Agriculture indicated a corn product somewhat in excess of 1,800,000 bushels, a small fraction above twenty-six bushels per acre.

On the ten months ended October 31 breadstuffs exports from the United States aggregated in value \$129,988,041, against \$145,155,351 for the corresponding period in 1886.

During the year 1886 the charters of 721 National banks, with an aggregate capital of over \$180,000,000, will expire. From information received by the Comptroller of the Currency it is expected a large majority of these banks will continue their existence.

The advice of physicians, Lieutenant George S. B. Hays, recently for Washington to prepare his report. He walks slowly, but claims to have fully recovered his memory.

In the past month's business, Great Britain exported \$3,450,000 of gold. Great Britain exported \$3,450,000 of gold. Great Britain exported \$3,450,000 of gold.

During the past year one hundred and ninety-one steamships have been chartered in the United States, adding an aggregate of about \$15,000,000 to the National banking capital of the country. During the period named eleven National banks have failed.

A CIRCULAR was issued on the 14th by the National Board of Health to the Governors of the various States advising them that the presence of Asiatic cholera in epidemic form in Europe is a constant menace to the people of this country, and urging them in view of the imminent danger which threatens the people of the United States to provide thorough sanitary measures.

There were 200 business failures in the United States and Canada during the seven days ended on the 14th, against 192 the previous seven days. The distribution was as follows: Middle States, 37; New England States, 24; Western, 41; Southern, 40; Pacific States and Territories, 16; Canada, 23.

THE EAST.

At Oil City, Pa., and adjoining towns diptheria in its worst form prevailed on the 13th.

In an address in New York on the evening of the 12th Mr. Capel said that the bad side of American politics was that which showed the attempts to put down the character of the man who was to rule the Nation.

CONTEMPORARY silver dollars so finely executed as to almost defy detection are in circulation in Boston. They are of a silver color, and are perfectly round, and are of the same size and weight as the real dollars.

The official report given at the recent election in New Hampshire was as follows: Blaine, 53,000; Cleveland, 30,000; St. John, 1,000; Butler, 500; Blaine's majority, 1,500. Curtis, Republican, for Governor, has a majority overall of 138.

The marriage of a great-granddaughter of Governor Joseph H. Rensselaer, of Pennsylvania, to the great-grandson of General Peter Muhlenberg, of Revolutionary fame, took place recently at Reading, Pa.

The sudden death of Mr. Ormsby Phillips, one of the proprietors of the Pittsburgh (Pa.) Dispatch, occurred a few mornings ago.

PENNSYLVANIA'S official vote at the recent election gives Blaine a plurality of 80,533.

The other day a fourteen-year-old boy named Houser, near Dayton, Pa., during his parents' absence, stripped his youngest sister and placed her on a red-hot stove, burning her fatally.

A few nights ago masked men robbed the house of Captain John Morrow, an invalid, at Mansfield, Pa., of \$500 and valuables. They bound and gagged Mrs. Morrow and a female friend in a brutal manner, and the former might not recover.

A collision between the steamer Johnstown, of Thompson, Me., was sunk in West Indian waters, and seventeen of the crew were drowned.

At Trenton, N. J., Rev. Henry Williamson, pastor of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, committed suicide recently with a revolver, leaving out his brains.

At Concord and other towns in New Hampshire a severe earthquake shock was felt on the 13th.

A few days ago John Maxwell, of South Argyle, N. Y., many years insane and confined in an old house, was burned to death in the destruction of the building by fire.

On the 13th a monument to commemorate the revolutionary battles of 1775, unveiled at Monmouth, N. J., in the presence of 3,000 persons.

The Boston Shoe & Leather Insurance Company has retired from the business of fire insurance.

At Cape Vincent, N. Y., four men were drowned a few evenings ago by the upsetting of a row-boat.

On the 14th services commemorating the 100th anniversary of the consecration of Samuel Seabury, the first American Episcopal Bishop, were held at Trinity Church, New York, and Christ Church, Hartford.

The death of William H. Duane, who at the recent election was elected by the Democrats to Congress in the Nineteenth Pennsylvania District, occurred at his residence in Gettysburg a few mornings ago of consumption.

In the burning of a cabin at Little Falls, N. Y., a few evenings ago four persons were probably injured.

On the 14th dry-goods imports at New York reached an aggregate value of \$1,087,000. The amount marketed was \$1,112,000.

The glass-works of King & Upton, at Penobscot, Me., were burned a few mornings ago, causing a loss of \$100,000.

At Camden, N. J., counterfeit \$10 bills on a Cincinnati bank are plentiful, and William L. Thompson, an engraver, was arrested on the 14th at Philadelphia as being one of the counterfeiters.

The failure is announced of B. C. Baker, one of the wealthiest land-owners and coal and iron producers in Altoona, Pa. Four hundred men were thrown out of work.

In the lumber yard of Kramer, Mann & Co., near Lock Haven, Pa., a fire recently destroyed lumber valued at \$200,000.

WEST AND SOUTH.

During a Democratic celebration on the 11th at Lauling, Tex., an aerial exploded, instantly killing two young men, Buck Wright and Monroe Fay.

The trial of the case of Mrs. Colton against Governor Stanford, C. P. Huntington and Charles Crocker was begun at San Francisco on the 14th. The amount involved is nearly \$500,000.

Upon appeal of guilty A. D. Sly, of St. Joseph, Mo., who last year robbed the American Express Company of \$10,000, has been sentenced to four years in the penitentiary.

At Lexington, Ky., on the 14th, a man made a mile in 2:04, beating her best record of 2:05, set by a woman.

Governor BOARD, of Ohio, in a proclamation addressed to the citizens of three counties in the Hooking Valley on the 13th gave a warning against incendiarism, threatening to use the entire militia of Ohio for its suppression.

A few nights ago William Barnett (colored) was assassinated in his kitchen at Marietta, O., by a shot fired by an unknown person through the window.

At Lake Erie, on the morning of the 11th a severe shock of earthquake was felt, and many people arose in fright, but no damage was done.

The Legislature of Alabama met at Montgomery on the 14th. The Senate organized by electing Thomas Say President.

Born of the propositions submitted at the recent election to the voters of Illinois—the constitutional amendment enlarging the veto power and the appropriation to construct a canal—have been ratified by large majorities.

At the other day William Johnson, a youth of Greenville, S. C., was arrested for the murder of his mother, Mrs. Cole.

A few days ago a fire destroyed a store at St. Louis, Mo., and 500 bales of cotton at Enfield, Ala., the loss being \$75,000.

A SWIFT was opened by wreckers the other day on the Ohio & Mississippi Road, near Vincennes, Ind., causing the death of Gay Fairbanks, the oldest engineer on the line.

The strikers in the Hooking Valley made further attempts to intimidate laborers on the 12th at Nelsonville, O. The militia was in readiness to be called upon.

RECENTLY ten car-loads of honey, valued at \$40,000, were purchased at Santa Ana, Cal., for shipment to Liverpool via New Orleans. The price paid was four and one-half cents per pound.

THE other day Herman Sietz, an aged and wealthy miser of Freeholdville, Ind., was found dead in his garret, surrounded by his hoarded wealth. Hunger and cold had taken him.

THE Mississippi official vote for presidential electors at the recent election was as follows: Cleveland, 74,537; Blaine, 42,774; Cleveland's plurality, 31,763.

THE marriage of George W. S. Harney, aged eighty-four, the oldest officer in the army, occurred in St. Louis a few days ago to Mrs. Mary St. Cyr, aged forty-eight, who had been his housekeeper for twenty years. His two daughters are the wives of titled gentlemen in Europe.

At the recent election in Delaware the official vote was as follows: Cleveland, 17,654; Blaine, 12,773; St. John, 55; Butler, 4; Cleveland's plurality, 4,781.

ON the 12th Joseph Biggers and Mr. and Mrs. Burgess, residing near Columbus, Ga., died from drinking coffee in which arsenic had been placed. Suspicion pointed to an old negro woman, formerly a cook in the family, as being guilty of the crime.

THE World's Exposition at New Orleans will open on December 10 and close June 1, 1890. It is estimated that the fair will cost \$1,000,000, and that an application would soon be made for admission as a State. He said many of the Indians were in a deplorable condition, and he feared many would die during the coming winter. He recommends that their reservations be thrown open for settlement.

ON the 12th Robert Steadman, an ordained preacher of the anti-polygamy branch of the Mormon Church, and his wife were found murdered on their ranch, near Big Horn, Col. Steadman was a wealthy pioneer.

ON the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad a freight-train was wrecked early the other morning near Ashtabula, O. Two persons were killed outright, and the fireman, who jumped into a creek, was seriously injured.

DR. GEORGE WORMISTON, for many years Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Detroit, has declined after repeated calls to accept the Episcopal Bishopric of Nebraska.

THE Michigan delegation in the Forty-ninth Congress will consist of seven Republicans and four Democrats—a Fusion gain of one.

THE Cincinnati magazine, now published at Cincinnati, has been exploded a few mornings ago by the detonation of a tub of nitro-glycerine, which had placed near a fire to thaw. The explosion was heard at Detroit, sixty miles away, and in the immediate vicinity smashed windows, leveled fences and barns and tore lumber from trees.

THE Fox and Doe Indians have leased two hundred thousand acres of grazing land to Kansas parties for ten years at \$4.00 per acre, the wire fencing to revert to the Indians at the expiration of the lease.

A second annual session of the National Stockmen's Association convened at the Sherman House in Chicago on the 13th. Over two hundred delegates were in attendance.

Monk converts to the number of about one hundred left Chattanooga on the 13th for Utah. In the party were three negroes—two men and a woman. Those were the first converts to Mormonism from that race.

PORTLAND (Ore.) advised of the 14th state that the smuggling of opium from British Columbia into Washington Territory still continues. Recently a small schooner landed forty at one of the lower wharves in Seattle. It required the greatest vigilance to prevent the country from being overrun with them. Opium was brought over the same way.

At Anderson, Ind., Dorey's Opera House (which cost \$40,000), a number of business structures and a very stable containing horses, vehicles, etc., were destroyed by fire early the other morning.

At a political celebration at Wellington, Kan., a few evenings ago Mrs. John Schmar and a hotel clerk were struck by a sky-rocket and killed, and W. B. Hood was seriously injured.

A railroad accident occurred early on the morning of the 14th at Hempstead, Tex., on the Houston & Texas Central Railway. The north-bound express crashed through a bridge and into Clear Creek, drowning twelve of the passengers and wounding twenty others. Many of the dead were mangled beyond recognition.

Several wealthy gentlemen of Cleveland, O., have incorporated the Cleveland Land & Lumber Company, and purchased 15,000 acres of land in Richland County, D. T., which will be put under cultivation next year. The capital stock of the company is fixed at \$100,000.

This other evening Truman B. Handy, a noted grain speculator at Cincinnati, was fatally injured in a runaway accident.

Boatsmen on the lake in the dry-goods state of David Beigle, at Hookington, O., recently with dynamite and robbed it of \$5,000 in money and notes.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

THE Paris police in their determination to stop public gambling, on the 11th closed thirty-three club-houses.

The release is reported of Patrick M. Fitzgerald, the Fenian suspect arrested in London in April last on the charge of treason.

Ten brothers of Richard Telford, tax collector, Ontario, were outbidding the 11th found insensible from gas from a coal stove. Medical aid was summoned and the victims taken to the hospital. There were slight hopes of their recovery.

The Indians have become incensed by the free taking of lands by whites about Neelakabla, British Columbia, and an outbreak was threatened on the 11th. The ship had been ordered to the scene of the disturbance.

In some parts of Canada a fatal disease has broken out among hogs, from which many have died, and farmers were on the 11th slaughtering their stock in large numbers to save themselves from further losses.

The Jamaica Legislature has voted solidly against annexation to Canada.

After a stormy debate, the House of Representatives on the 14th passed a bill to settle the Presidential question. Mr. Blaine, it is stated on authority, received Saturday afternoon a telegram from New York announcing the completion of the official canvass for the Presidency.

He feels that he made a good thing, and gracefully bows to the verdict of his fellow-citizens. He believes the Republican party will prove true to its pledge and will carry out its policy.

He expects that in 1888 it will again be called upon to power. Mr. Blaine leaves for Washington the middle of next week. He has leased the Sargent House in Farragut square, and will shortly resume his work on the second volume of "Twenty Years of Congress." The volume will be ready by June next for publication.

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THE COUNT FINISHED.

Cleveland and Hendricks Elected President and Vice-President.

Their Plurality in New York About 1,100.—How the News Was Received by the Successful and Defeated Candidates.

THE AGONY ENDED.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—At 7:35 Saturday night Deputy County Clerk Beattie made this announcement to the New York Board of County Canvassers: "The Board of Canvassers have completed the canvass of the 713 election districts in the city of New York. It is necessary that the canvassers be required to correct the returns to the face of the return. That return gives to the Blaine electors 51 votes, to the Cleveland electors 138 votes, and to the Hendricks electors 137 votes. The highest on the Blaine ticket, 50,993 plurality for the lowest Cleveland elector, 43,047. This is a net gain for Blaine of 102 over the generally accepted unofficial figures in New York County, and makes Cleveland's plurality in the State 1,105. The total vote in the State is: Cleveland, 663,103; Blaine, 561,088; St. John, 25,377; Butler, 16,676.

A few newspapers there are no two which agree as to the final result. The World gives Cleveland 1,107 plurality in New York State. The Times gives Cleveland 1,105 plurality in New York State. The Herald gives Cleveland 1,105 plurality in New York State. The Sun gives Cleveland 1,105 plurality in New York State.

ALBANY, Nov. 17.—Governor Cleveland made a short speech at the Executive Office when the news of the count came. His private secretary, Colonel Lamont, having gone to visit his father. The first dispatch was from E. Lynd Stilson, of the Democratic Union, Albany, who had been in the canvassing board. The second was from his assistant, Charles J. Miller. The third was from John J. Van Hook, Albany. All stated that the count was correct and that Cleveland had won.

With the remark to the dispatchers, "I guess you will like to read these," the Governor went over to the Executive Mansion. He was met by a large number of his friends, and he was seen to be in good spirits. He was seen to be in good spirits. He was seen to be in good spirits.

At which he will resign his present office will be inferred from this fact: The Constitution requires that the President be elected in January, and it will not be in session until after January 1.

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 17.—A special from Albany says: "Mr. Blaine regards the official count as a great disappointment. He is settled in the Presidential question. Mr. Blaine, it is stated on authority, received Saturday afternoon a telegram from New York announcing the completion of the official canvass for the Presidency.

He feels that he made a good thing, and gracefully bows to the verdict of his fellow-citizens. He believes the Republican party will prove true to its pledge and will carry out its policy.

He expects that in 1888 it will again be called upon to power. Mr. Blaine leaves for Washington the middle of next week. He has leased the Sargent House in Farragut square, and will shortly resume his work on the second volume of "Twenty Years of Congress." The volume will be ready by June next for publication.

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PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

Annual Report of Lieutenant-General Sheridan—Statement from the Report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office—Statement from the Commissioner of the General Land Office—Statement from the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—The annual report of Lieutenant-General Sheridan has been made, covering the period from his assignment to the command of the army November 1, 1886, to November 1, 1887. It covers a period during this time the entire territory under the supervision of troops has been unusually free from collision, resulting in loss of life or property, but that the services of the military in the West was not so safely disposed with for many years to come. Much thought and attention had been given to rifle firing, and the high scores attained in annual contests for army prizes the past season—gratifying progress in this vitally important branch of military instruction. It would be impossible for a close look of the record to stand before a skirmish composed of untrained marksmen. The Lieutenant-General expresses great interest in the National Guard, and thinks Congress should designate the number of men each State should have, and provide for them arms and camp and garrison equipment under some wise method of accountability for this property whenever the State Governments themselves appropriate substantial sums of money for the support of their respective military systems, in such a manner that these arms can not be affected by private legislation. Excepting for our ocean commerce and for our seaboard cities, he does not think we are in any danger from foreign powers, since it would require more than a million and a half of men to make a campaign upon this coast. He is confident that the military of this country will be able to meet any emergency.

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The Quail

G. FALMER, Editor and Proprietor.
GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

AWFUL HARD LINES.

Though you should come and know low as
my feet,
And weep in blood-red tears of agony,
It would not bring me down to me,
Nor stir my heart out of its quietude.

There was a time when any word you spoke,
When just the sound of your melodious
voice
Would thrill me through and make my
heart rejoice.

You were low, but now the spot is
low.
You rudely woke me from my dream of bliss,
Knowing my love, reading it everywhere,
You sought to see how much my heart
would bear.

Some things I can forgive, but never this.
And though an angel, with a shining brow,
Should come from Heaven and speak to
me,
I would not let him be my own again.

I would not let him be my own again,
I would not let him be my own again,
I would not let him be my own again,
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A FOUR-FOOTED BIRD.

Singular Inhabitant of the Lower
Amazon River.

A Post-Natal Metamorphosis of the Most
Remarkable Character. The Cre-
ature's Habits—Sole Survivors
of Its Genus.

The following important paper in the
interest of science was read before the
Chicago Academy of Sciences at its
last regular meeting, by Mr. Edward
M. Brigham, of Battle Creek, Mich.
Mr. Brigham has already made two
journeys to the Amazon River, South
America—the first in 1879, the second
in 1881—remaining in the latter eight
months. He expects to leave soon on
the third expedition to the same re-
gion. By permission of the author, the
paper will be issued as a bulletin of the
academy with drawings illustrating the
peculiar characteristics of this singular
bird.

A BIOLOGICAL SENSATION.

It was, no doubt, noticed by most of
you that the latest Association for the
Advancement of Science, when in con-
vention in Montreal, experienced a
great biological sensation, upon re-
ceiving a cable dispatch from Australia
announcing the discovery that the
ornithorhynchus—a warm-blooded,
milk-giving, furred, quadruped animal,
lays eggs. Though it may be that
among the speculations upon this por-
tuguese, strange and somewhat phan-
tastic, fact was not unaccompanied by
the fact that even Americans were astounded
by the reality. However, the an-
nouncement was hardly needed to con-
firm the long-existing belief that the
animal taxonomically belongs in the
very lowest place in its class—the highest
class of organic beings mammalia.

The announcement determined us
no longer to delay a report of a similar-
ly interesting discovery made on an ex-
pedition of 1881-82 in South America.
We only excuse for the delay the fact
that we desired to investigate further before re-
porting.

The discovery referred to is a species
of quadruped bird—i. e., a species of
four-footed bird, which fills a place
slightly low in its class to that which
the egg-laying mammal occupies in the
mammalia—at the foot. These dis-
coveries are biological innovations, but
they refer to the very lowest phases of
their types. The oviparous manner of
reproduction of the ornithorhynchus,
points to its proximate allies—the egg-
laying non-mammalian forms—as do
the fore feet of the bird to its proximate
reptilian ancestry.

Though the ornithorhynchus is a
most extraordinary mammal, it is not
that it lays eggs, but that it is a mam-
mal and unconstitutional business for it,
but the authenticity of the report is un-
questionable. The work of laying eggs
among the higher animals has so long,
by general consent, been the prerogative
of the oviparous, that the discovery of a
mammal which does so, is a violation of
the law. It is equally at variance
with the accepted order of things
for the bird to have four or fore feet,
WHERE THE DISCOVERY WAS MADE—
CHILDESBURG.

While making embryological studies
in the interior of the great island of
Marajo, on the small River Apabubu, I
discovered the quadruped bird.

After having examined many speci-
mens of various ages, I found that from
what corresponds to about the em-
bryonic state of development of the
opinion fowl at the tenth day of in-
cubation, these birds develop into their
characters, unmistakably throughout
their egg development, and to a period
several days after hatching, the fore
feet, toes and claws hold their charac-
ters as such as unmistakably as those
parts of the posterior members.

Later a progressive modification man-
ifested itself by reducing the digits, ex-
cluding the claws, and lastly, the
three anterior members into those charac-
teristic of a bird. There is, as far as
the higher vertebrate animals, so far as
I know, no other example of post-natal
metamorphosis, in such fundamental
organs, to anything like this extent.

The law enunciated by Von Baer—
that the phylogenetic development is
represented in the ontogenetic—has
never been expressed here. An important
ontogenetic feature is persistent beyond
the egg or pre-natal development. The
animal progressing in its embryonic
course passes into its reptilian ancestral
type and before its evolution has en-
tered it through this reptilian phase—
it emerges from the egg. Thus from
an egg laid by a two-footed, two-winged
bird hatches a quadruped animal.

For several days after hatching it re-
tains its quadruped character, then in
the open air and sunlight one pair of
legs evolves into wings. Front legs are
purposely in a bird.

Development, the doctrine of pur-
poseness, one of the most profound in-
creasingly numerous of organic evolu-
tion, has an important exemplification
here, since in the course of embryonic
development a foot appears in a state
morphologically finished, indicating its
purpose by the well-developed toes,
each terminated by a long, well-devel-
oped claw. Then the developmental
processes were modified, and instead of
a foot, a wing is the final post-natal re-
sult. The nucleus of the bird-egg (gyn-
gys). It has been long known to
science under the name of Ornithomys
eristata.

THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF ITS GENUS.

An adult specimen, in size and gen-
eral appearance, when inactive, re-
sembles one of a pheasant, but it bears

really no near relation to the pheas-
ant in fact, it has no near relative
living being the sole survivor of its
genus. Its family, its order, all order
of which zoologists have found inter-
representatives in a fossil state.
Its geographical range is quite lim-
ited, it being found only about the
estuary of the Amazon and mouths of
its lower tributaries. It is gregarious.
I rarely found fewer than a half-dozen
together. Its habitat is peculiar, and
for the most part limited to a single
species of plant. This plant—called by
the natives *Amog*—is a tall, bran-
ched aroid. It has large, heart-
shaped leaves, calla-like flowers and
pineapple-like fruit. It varies in height
to twenty feet, averaging about eight.
It grows in dense masses on the low,
muddy margins of the islands,
bordering the water courses, fre-
quently stands many yards out in the
muddy shallows.

FURTHER PECULIARITIES.
I never saw it alight upon the ground,
and though the *Amog* leaf is a frail
and yielding perch the bird seems to
prefer it to all others. They build nests
of twigs and other coarse vegetable
matter in the *Amog* tops, the low,
overhanging branches of trees, or
mossy rocks.

When one is confronted beyond en-
durance by the *Amog*, the bird seems to
venture into the forest, and then
not so far but a few strokes of its wings
will place its feet on the yielding,
swinging *Amog* leaf again, where it
rests its breastbone on the perch and
bites, awkwardly tottering with out-
spread wings and tail, till the *Amog*
ceases swinging. The habit of steady-
ing itself on its perch by squatting upon
its breastbone has caused a thickening,
a piling up of epidermal tissue in a hard
callosity, which is anchored to the
bone so firmly that in skinning it must
be broken off or separated with a stout
cartridge knife. This seems to imply a
long association of the *Amog* and
bird. The bird is so much at home
on the *Amog* that even when at rest on
other perches it is rarely seen erect.
I have not seen it fly further than
across a narrow stream, from one
Amog hedge to another. It is quarrel-
some, and when its pugnacity is man-
ifested its pleasant-like appearance
changes and it resembles an angry bird.
It erects its sparsely-plumed crest, and
awkwardly-hopping-like wings, while
trying to keep its equilibrium on the
unstable perch, it throws its neck into
contortions, as though it were choking,
menacing in a ludicrously awkward
manner its fellow, which is having
some difficulty in standing on the
brim while retreating from the swing-
ing leaf of a neighboring *Amog*.

While the birds are thus strangely
gesticulating, the noise of their flap-
ping wings is accompanied with hissing,
grunting and shrieking.

There are times of general uprising,
when the mingled utterances from
these quarrelsome birds make a jargon in-
discernible and demagogic. Then,
again, they utter most doleful sounds,
as though they were suddenly moved
to mourning for the all extinct op-
istomidae.

Such periods of extreme demonstra-
tion occur usually in the night, and
such as this, or some of these
sounds to those of a jargon, that, upon
being awakened from sound sleep, even
after hearing them daily for many
months, I have held my gun in readi-
ness until other and characteristic
sounds would follow, identifying the
"Amog" or *Amog* as would its
transient four-footed feet or as the
process of egg-laying would in a typical
mammal.

IMPORTANCE OF THE DISCOVERY.
It is another answer to those remain-
ing unexplained in evolution, the
"missing links," and if their desire
for investigating be strong enough,
they may, by padding their dug-out
into the river hedges of *Amog* of the
lower Amazon, look upon, as the
writer did, these transitory dystole-
logical members of the quadruped
bird, may witness the wonderful meta-
morphosis of a quadruped into a
bird—i. e., a quadruped into a bird.

PEPPERMINT.
Cultivated for Producing Oil—The Industry
in New York—Adaptations.

been extensively raised in Western
Michigan for the purpose of producing oil.
Recently it has been cultivated in
Mississippi for the same purpose. A
correspondent of the Department of
Agriculture gives the following ac-
count of the industry in New York:
About 8,000 acres of land are annually
devoted to the production of this useful
essential oil in Wayne and adjoining
counties, which is justly considered the
finest quality grown in the United
States. Only a small quantity is grown
out of Wayne County, and the pro-
duction is 60,000 pounds of oil,
superior to any produced in any other
part of the world except a small place
in England. It is planted very early
in the spring, and requires very thor-
ough and peculiar cultivation. The
harvest begins in August. After cut-
ting, the plant is allowed to wither for
eight or ten days, then it is cut and
laid in cocks, where it can be left
but a short time before being taken to
the still. The still consists of wooden
tubs of heavy staves strongly hooped
with iron. The wilted mint is packed
in the tubs by treading with the feet;
when full a cover made steam-tight
with rubber packing is fastened on top
by screwing down the lower rim, and
the lower part of the tub with a steam
boiler. Another pipe connects the top
of the tub with the condensing-worm.
Steam being now introduced from the
boiler by means of stop cocks, it per-
meates thoroughly the contents of the
tub and escapes through the pipe con-
necting with the worm. At a pressure
of forty pounds the oil of the pepper-
mint plant is volatilized, and mixing
with the steam is carried along through
the pipe to the worm, where it is con-
densed, and the mixed oil and water
are discharged into a deep receiver,
where the difference in their specific
gravity causes them to separate. If the
tub, pipes, etc., are all entirely clean,
and nothing but the best mint—no
weeds or other plants—placed in the
tub, the oil will be strictly pure, and
when settled, refined and filtered will
be ready for market. Peppermint is
sometimes carelessly cultivated, and
various weeds which produce oil allow-
ed to grow among it, which, if stirred
up, will give impure oil. In the cities
represented oil is frequently adulterated
by dealers with the oil of kumkum,
pennyroyal, arbut-vitis, rosemary,
mandarin, Canada flea, bane, spruce, and
various other cheap essential oils.

If the pasture is short give the
calves a pint of wheat middlings and
linned meal once a day, and see them
grow.—*Prairie Farmer*.

HOME AND FARM.

For seed, pick out big potatoes
with big, plump eyes.
It is easier to fatten stock in mod-
erate than in cold weather.—*Try*
Times.

Many of the afflictions that visit
our poultry yards are the results of
neglect and ill-health.
A Wisconsin farmer claims to have
discovered a specific remedy for the
ravages of the potato bug. He plants
one or two flax seeds in every hill of
potatoes, and says that by so doing the
bugs never trouble the crop.

One egg cake. One egg, one large
spoonful of butter, two cups of sugar,
one small cup of milk, two and a half
cups of flour, two small teaspoonsful of
baking powder, nutmeg or lemon to
flavor.—*The Housewife*.

The *Homeside* says that there is
something wonderful in the fertilizing
properties of clover.—It is astonishing
that the farmers do not realize its im-
mense value for the improvement of the
soil. It should never be omitted in a
systematic rotation of crops.

The greater the number of fowls in
a place the greater the chances

While one man may count a great many
fowls, he can not succeed unless he
manages to give about as much care
and watchfulness to every twenty or
thirty as he would to a single flock of
that size. It is just there that most
ambitious poultrymen, aiming to do
something large, make their mistake.
—*Albany Journal*.

Baked or tongue: Put the tongue
into a stew-pan and lay on the top
of it a few slices of butter, and cover
the pan with a four-and-a-half water
crust, and bake, according to size, in a
moderate hot oven. When done take
the crust off the skin and straighten the
tongue on a board by means of skewers
at the tip and root. When cold
glaze it, ornament it with a frill of pa-
per, vegetables cut into shapes and
curled parsley.—*Exchange*.

"S. R." asks how codfish can be kept
so long and light when cooked in milk.
The secret of success in this process is
that the fish must be picked in fine
pieces, and soaked in cold water for at
least an hour, then pour hot water
over it, and after draining it put it into
the milk which you have thickened
with a little flour. Cook for two long
enough to cook the flour, and the
milk will be done. A minute or two be-
fore taking it from the fire, add some well-
beaten eggs.—*N. Y. Post*.

Turkeys do not require warm
quarters in winter as do other fowls.
However, cold weather they should be
allowed to run out of doors every
day, except perhaps, in very
stormy weather. If confined in warm
quarters and not allowed to run out
of doors, they usually show signs of
indisposition, loss of their appetite, be-
come dim and inactive, and are not
frequently fed. They are very hardy
birds and easily wintered. About all
they require is a place to roost at night,
where they will be out of the wind,
plenty to eat and drink and their liberty
during the day.—*Chicago Journal*.

DOGS GUARDING PROPERTY.

An Instinct Taught to the Canine Race by
Man.

The dog's fidelity in guarding prop-
erty is a purely artificial instinct, cre-
ated by man.

It is now so strongly in-
grained in the intelligence of the dog
that it is unusual to find any individual
animal in which it is wholly absent.
Thus, we all know that without any
training a dog will allow a stranger to
pass by his master's gate without mo-
lestation, but that as soon as the
stranger passes the gate, the dog knows
that he is trespassing on his master's
territory, and immediately begins to bark
in order to give his master notice of the
intrusion. And this leads me to observe
that barking is itself an artificial in-
stinct, developed, I believe, as an offshoot
from the more general instinct of guard-
ing property.

Now, whether we look to the
dog as known to bark, and therefore
we must conclude that barking is an
artificial instinct, acquired for the
purpose of notifying to his master
the presence of a trespasser, or whether
the dog's instinct of guarding property
extends to the formation of an instinctive
idea of the part of the animal of itself
constituting part of that property. If, for instance,
a friend gives you temporary charge of
his dog, even though the dog may
never have seen you before, and that
you are his master's friend and that
his master intends you to take
charge of him, he immediately transfers
his allegiance from his master to you,
as to a deputed owner, and will then
follow you through any number of
crowded streets with the utmost con-
fidence. Thus, whether we look to the
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